

**UNAPPROVED MINUTES
CITY OF MILPITAS
ARTS COMMISSION**

- Minutes:** Regular Meeting of the Arts Commission (AC)
Date of Meeting: Monday, September 22, 2003
Place of Meeting: Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Committee Conference Room
- I. Call to Order** Chairperson Foulk called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- II. Flag Salute** The Chair led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call** Commissioners Present: Barrie, Foulk, Gupta (7:15 p.m.), Hicks, Ogle, Rabe, and Alternates Barnes (left early 7:15 p.m.) and Ettinger
- Commissioners Absent: Hays
- City Staff Present: Recreation Services Supervisor, Kathleen Yurchak, Public Services Assistant II, Renee Lorentzen
- City Council Liaison Present: Council Member Armando Gomez
- IV. Alternates** Due to the absence of Commissioner Hays, Alternate Barnes was seated.
- V. Agenda** The Chair asked that due to the absence of Commissioner Barrie, Item 3. Phantom Art Gallery Application – Marianne Pilgrim Calabrese, under X. New Business, be moved to IX. Old Business, Item 1.
- MOTION** to approve the amended Agenda of September 22, 2003, as amended.
M/S: Rabe/Barrie Ayes: All
- VI. Minutes** **MOTION** to approve the Minutes of August 25, 2003.
M/S: Hays/Rabe Ayes: All
- VII. Citizens Forum** No members from the audience wished to address the Commission.
- VIII. Announcements/Correspondence**
- Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, announced the following upcoming events:
- *The Milpitas Dog Park Opening is on September 27, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at the Dog Park site at Ed Levin Park. All Commissioners and their dogs are invited to attend.*
 - *The City held it's September 11th Remembrance Ceremony and Candle Light Vigil at 7:30 p.m. at the Milpitas Civic Center Plaza, with great community support. Approximately 200 people attended the event.*
 - *Rainbow Theatre's production of "You Have the Right To Remain Dead" opened last weekend and will be running from September 19-28. This is the seasons Teen Production and is an audience participation Murder Mystery.*

IX. Old Business

1. Phantom Art Gallery Marianne Pilgrim Calabrese

Marianne Pilgrim Calabrese presented the Commission with a selection of paintings, sampling her proposed Phantom Art Gallery. Ms. Calabrese informed the Commission that her Gallery would host paintings of images and themes from the tragedies of September 11th. She further explained that her medium is Acrylics and paints. The floor was opened for Commissioner questions.

Commissioner Barrie asked how many paintings she would show in her gallery. Ms. Calabrese answered that she would show (8) of her paintings. Commissioner Rabe asked if Ms. Calabrese would be willing to have her gallery start in September 2004, so as to have the gallery show during the City of Milpitas' September 11th Ceremony. Ms. Calabrese said she would like to have her gallery up as soon as possible but would be willing to have her gallery show in September 2004. Commissioner Rabe asked if Ms. Calabrese had any pictures or memorabilia to put in the glass cabinet that resides in the Phantom Art Gallery. Ms. Calabrese answered she could display the pictures that were the inspiration for some of her paintings. Ms. Calabrese informed the Commission that she was going to be returning to New York and could bring back a few more paintings for her gallery.

Commissioner Rabe asked if her paintings would be priced for sale. Ms. Calabrese answered that her art would be priced for sale. Commissioner Rabe stated that she would like to see a special Phantom Art Gallery showing in September 2004 with Ms. Calabrese's work.

MOTION to approve Marianne Pilgrim Calabrese's Phantom Art Gallery application, with Gallery time to be determined by staff and Ms. Calabrese.

M/S: Barrie/Ogle Ayes: All

2. Phantom Art Gallery Discussion

Commissioner Barrie stated that she felt the Commission needs to be stricter with the artwork they approve to be shown in the Phantom Art Gallery. Commissioner Barrie said the artwork that is approved should look more professional. She said that the Commission needs to set standards and raise the bar for the artists who apply and that the Commission needs to think more carefully about the criteria set for the Phantom Art Gallery and that it is okay to deny an application; the Commission does not have to let applicants "down easy". The Commission should be honest with their evaluation of the art.

Alternate Ettinger asked if with a Phantom Art Gallery application, slides or pictures are required for initial screening. The Commission answered that slides or pictures were not required. Commissioner Rabe said the rules set in the Phantom Art Gallery application in regards to framing need to be adhered to. She asked if the Children's Gallery in April 2003 would have their artwork framed. Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, answered that the work would be matte framed. Commissioner Barrie suggested that it be placed in the Phantom Art Gallery Application that the month of April is designated for Month of the Young Child and the guidelines of the artwork for said gallery are different. Commissioner Rabe asked who would be picking the children's artwork to be displayed. Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, answered that the teachers would be selecting the artwork. Commissioner Rabe suggested that the Commission have a role in picking the artwork as well. Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, stated that the Children's Gallery is a new venture and the process for art selection will be a learning process.

Council Member Gomez asked the Commission if they had denied Daniel White's application because it was too dark. Commissioner Barrie said that it is not the message of Mr. White's art that was objectionable; it was the lack of professionalism and technique of

his work. Council Member Gomez asked the how the Commission determines “professionalism”. Commissioner Barrie answered that one can look at a painting and tell when someone has had no training. In the case of Mr. White, he had only been painting for one year and hadn’t taken a painting class.

Commissioner Gupta stated that art is subjective. The beauty of art is different for everyone. Commissioner Gupta said that the most recent galleries are targeting only one kind of audience. The Phantom Art Gallery should attempt to target a younger audience as well. Commissioner Rabe stated that it is the responsibility of the Commission to develop an eye for art. The Commission should be able to look at a picture or piece of art and be able to review it on their knowledge of technique and proper use of materials and application.

Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, said that the Commission needs to define what the correct knowledge of art is, if that is what they are going to base their criteria and decision for approving or denying an application.

Commissioner Barrie said she would like to see younger artists featured in the Gallery. She reminded the Commission of the Milpitas High School Art Calendar that the Milpitas Alliance for the Arts distributed. Chairperson Foulk said the Commission should extend an invite to the Milpitas High School’s art teachers, to have their classes apply for the Phantom Art Gallery.

Commissioner Hicks asked whether the Gallery shows were going to be reduced to (2) month durations. Public Services Assistant II, Lorentzen, answered that the option to have a (2) month Gallery show could be incorporated into the Phantom Art Gallery application.

Chairperson Foulk asked the Phantom Art Gallery Application also state some sort of criteria for the artwork’s workmanship and the standards considered when the Arts Commission reviews an application. Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, stated that staff would research other cities and local art galleries and return to the Commission with their findings at a future meeting.

X. New Business

1. Review of the By-laws Revision

Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, reviewed the Arts Commission By-laws, highlighting the Terms of Office and Commissioner Attendance section.

2. Election of Officers

Due to the resignation of Commissioner Cherry, the Office of Vice-Chair is vacant. The Chair opened up the floor for nominations.

Commissioner Rabe nominated Commissioner Barrie for Vice-Chair.

MOTION to elect Commissioner Barrie as Arts Commission Vice-Chair.

M/S: Rabe/Ogle Ayes: All

3. Work Plan Meeting Date

Recreation Services Supervisor, Yurchak, requested that the Work Plan Meeting be agendized for the month of October. Commissioner Rabe suggested that the meeting begin

at 6:00 p.m. to allow for ample planning time. The Commission requested that staff agendaize the Work Plan meeting for October 27, 2003, at 6:00 p.m.

4. Arts Day 2003 Arts Commission Table Volunteers

Commissioner Gupta asked if any Commissioner's would volunteer to work the Arts Commission information table at Arts Day from 10a.m.-2p.m. in one hour shifts.

Alternate Ettinger	10:00a.m. - 11:00a.m.
Commissioner Hicks	11:00a.m. -12:00p.m.
Commissioner Rabe	12:00p.m. - 1:00p.m.
Commissioner Foulk	1:00p.m. - 2:00p.m.

XI. Staff Reports None

XII. Liaison Reports None

XIII. Future Agenda Items

None

XIV. Adjournment There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m. until the next Special meeting on October 27, 2003 at 6:00 p.m.